

Gunshot Wounds Among Vermont Residents

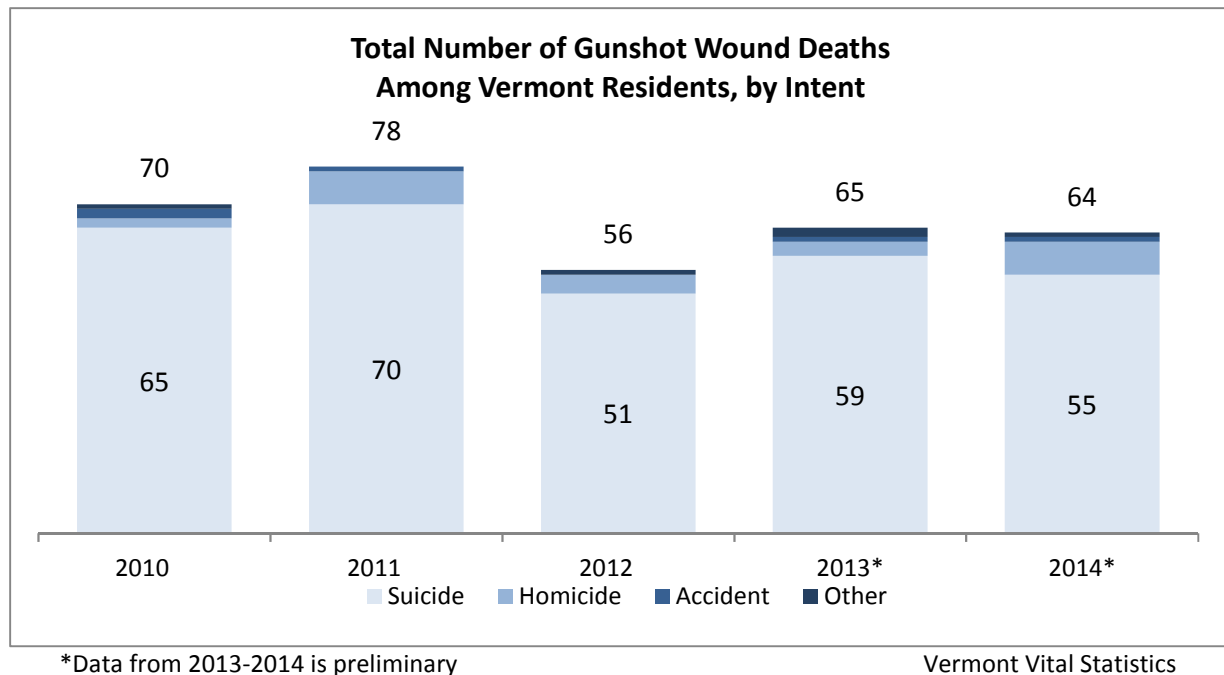
Vermont Injury Prevention Program

Background

Vermont residents have a slightly lower rate¹ of occurrence of gunshot wound death when compared to the U.S. (9.5 per 100,000 compared to 10.3 per 100,000 respectively in 2014). Further investigation into Vermont residents' gunshot wound incidents shows that most are to end one's life.

Gunshot Wound Deaths²

Between 2010 and 2014, 90% of all gunshot wound deaths among Vermont residents were a result of suicide. However, when looking at suicide in the same time period more than half, 55%, of all suicides were completed via gunshot wound. There was no statistical difference in gunshot wound deaths or gunshot wound suicide deaths from 2010 to 2014.



Male Vermont residents are more likely than females to suffer gunshot wound death. Also, they are more likely to end their lives and to do so via a gunshot wound. Between 2010 and 2014, approximately 87% of all gunshot wound deaths were to males. Also, males account for more than 80% of all suicide deaths and 89% of gunshot wound suicide deaths.

From 2010-2014, six in ten (61%) deaths due to gunshot wounds were among Vermont residents 45 and older. Also, 60% of all suicides and 64% of gunshot wound suicide deaths were in the 45+ age group. Youth (<18 years) represented approximately one in twenty gunshot wound and gunshot wound suicide deaths. This equates to 15 gunshot wound deaths, of which 11 of them were suicide, during the 2010-2014 time period.

As a rural state, it is interesting to note that less than half of Vermont resident deaths occurred in rural areas (2010-2014). However, a slight majority of gunshot wound deaths occurred in rural areas (60%).

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¹ Age adjusted to U.S. 2000 standard population.

² Source: Vermont Vital Statistics, data from 2013-2014 are considered preliminary.